

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 9, 2019

The Honorable James Inhofe  
Chairman  
Senate Armed Services Committee  
228 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed  
Ranking Member  
Senate Armed Services Committee  
228 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Chairman  
House Armed Services Committee  
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mac Thornberry  
Ranking Member  
House Armed Services Committee  
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Inhofe and Smith and Ranking Member Reed and Thornberry:

We write to express our strong support for the provision titled Section 1099U related to funding for the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor in the House-passed (H.R. 2500) Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (FY 2020 NDAA). This provision, which increases the statutory cap amount of funding for this important national treasure, will help local communities in New York along the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor continue to thrive and preserve history.

In order for it to continue receiving its annual appropriations, the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor needs its statutory funding cap raised this year. In the recent Lands Package that was signed into law most of the areas with expiring caps had their caps raised, but unfortunately the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor was inadvertently left out of the cap extension. As you begin conference negotiations to reconcile the House and Senate-passed NDAAs, we request that you insist on including the House's provision in the final conference bill to correct this oversight.

## SEC. 1099U. FUNDING LIMITATION FOR THE ERIE CANALWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.

Section 810(a)(1) of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Act (Public Law 106-554; 114 Stat. 2763A-303) is amended, in the second sentence, by striking "\$12,000,000" and inserting "\$14,000,000".

As you prepare the Conference Report, we urge you to include this important provision to help protect this nationally significant piece of history. We thank you for your leadership, and appreciate your consideration of our requests.

Sincerely,



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



Antonio Delgado  
Member of Congress



Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress